

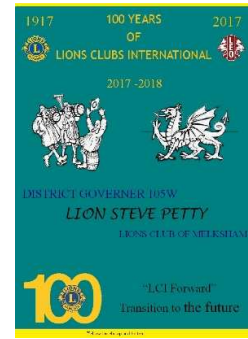


'We Serve'

LIONS Clubs International

105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Steve Petty - District Governor



ordinary people *doing*
amazing things

March 2018

www.lions105w.org.uk



My Fellow Lions

As we head into spring the weather is beginning to warm a little, daffodils are in flower, days are getting longer and the sun is getting warmer. It's that time of year when all good lions clubs are planning to visit their sheds and storage areas to make sure that rickety old

tombola table is still going to hold together for yet another hectic season of Fêtes and Fayres, time to count the plastic ducks to make sure none have migrated to warmer climates during the winter and look for any repainting that might need doing.

I have now almost completed the list of club visits allocated to my schedule and thank every one of you for being friendly and accommodating. That was very welcome after spending endless hours on the M4 staring at the traffic going by while singing along to the radio. They tell me that next year, I can go over the Severn Bridge for free? I feel privileged! I might do it once or twice just for the joy of not stopping at the tolls.

During my club visits I have sensed a real effort to change and moving forward to bring twenty-first century thinking into club routines. I have been present at a growing band of new members being badged up who are only in their thirties and forties. A big welcome to all those new members joining us and congratulations to those clubs who are doing the recruiting. I am sure the rest of you will find your way in the near future. Just make sure when you have younger members, you look after them and put them in charge sooner rather than later and don't get upset if they want to do something different to you!

Our 43rd Convention is again upon us and looks to be a memorable event yet again. We have now sold our total allocation of rooms and regretfully cannot get anymore in at the hotel. Our international guests are all prepped on their speeches and are looking forward to being there. The world record spectacle collection is looking like it's going to be a mammoth success at

the Bae Baglan School. Chris has engaged with the local sea cadets in the area, who are not only chaining the spectacles together, but going around the local community collecting even more spectacles? The convention brochure is now available on our website or [here](#). We owe Chris Davis and his team a huge thank you.

Tickets for the Lions UN day at Westminster have now been allocated. I am sorry if you missed out and would ask you to apply earlier next year to make sure you get in.

There is not a lot to say on Redistricting, other than the process continues. There is currently more work being done with the clubs moving north than those going south but I am sure that will soon balance out.

Whilst we understand change is inevitable, the way in which some information from LCI, MD105 etc. is being randomly delivered to clubs is actually causing concern amongst members. The best way to understand change is to make sure your club officers attend one of the officer training dates set for April. Quite often the change only relates to a new name for an old duty.

Lion Steve Petty, District Governor, 105W.

Membership Welcome ...

During February, District Governor Lion Steve welcomed the following members to the family of Lions:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Cardiff | David Giblette. |
| Newport | Chris Bryan, David Watts. |
| Calne | Paula Gray. |
| Durlsey | Christopher Pagett. |
| Forest of Dean | Stuart Love. |
| Wotton Under Edge | William Pinker. |

105W Members end of February 2018 – 902

Higher Service ...

It is with deep regret that News Update reports the passing to higher service of:

George Shenton, Llandrindod Wells Lions Club,
Stanley Austin, Hereford Lions Club and
Iain Waugh, Kington Lions Club.

District Governor, Lion Steve, and all Lion members, extend sincere condolences to their families.

Youth Exchange 2018 ...

The time is fast approaching for us to start thinking about hosting for this year's Youth Exchange Programme and Youth Camp.

Final dates have yet to be advised, but if there are any members who feel that they are able to assist by hosting one (or even two) of our visitors towards the end of July/early August, please get in touch with me.

Colin Marsh. youthexchange@lions105w.org.uk

Membership Matters ...



Did you know that women have been Lions for 30 years? It was a slow start but I'm pleased to be able to say that women's numbers are growing. In our District, 24% of our members are women – that seems a bit low to me and there is room for more. We currently have our first female 1st Vice District Governor and our first female 1st Vice International President so next year may look a little different at the top! But back to Club level; to encourage female membership, every Club should be looking at its promotions, publicity, leaflets, websites and so on to make sure that they give a balanced message and ensure that Lions is not seen as a 'men only' organisation.

Sue Wilding, membership@lions105w.org.uk

105W Club Officer Days ...

All continuing and Incoming Club Officers these days are for you!

The Only Thing in Life which is Constant is ... ?

CHANGE is the answer my fellow Lions, for us and our clubs it is Re-Districting, Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status, Global Action Team (GAT) a different kind of volunteer, greater expectations from new members, clubs becoming more diverse and it goes on and on and on!

Interactivity will be the main stay of the day, questions will be answered fully, challenges taken on board and issued, current practices looked at to see how they fit with today's ways of thinking.

Yes, we will spend time listening as a group, but we will also spend time working with each other, listening to each other, offering ways forward to each other, sharing ideas, finding out how we can work with our neighbouring clubs and what they can do for us, finding out what the association can and does do for us. Above all fellow Lions we will be supporting each other.

Fellow Lions please come along and make these days lively, interesting, enjoyable, worthwhile and days to remember, days that you will recommend your successors attend next year. The days are:

Sunday 22 April, 09.30 -16.00

Mercure Hotel, Swansea, SA7 9EG

Sunday 29 April, 09.30 -16.00

Aztec Hotel, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4TS

Any other Lions, especially your newer members, will be made most welcome.

Please advise of your attendance to ensure adequate seating and refreshments!

Lion Bill O'Neill leadership@lions105w.org.uk

Competitions Corner ...

This year's District Convention is at the start of this month, when the results of this year's District Competitions will be announced. I am sure many of you will be keen to know the results. Hopefully the competitions will increase the fellowship between clubs and for us to learn from each other.

I will have a stand in the displays area where you will be able to collect claims forms to claim points for attending District Convention. I look forward to meeting those Lions who are attending District Convention.

For those of you who have entered competitions I would like to offer my thanks, whilst hoping that you will continue to support them during the next year and if you haven't yet joined in please do so.

Sue Wooldridge, competitions@lions105w.org.uk

Schools Quiz ...

Once again the local Primary schools entered a team each of 4 pupils for the Black Mountains Lions Annual Schools Quiz. Unfortunately due to the opening of the new schools and the changeover involved, two teams couldn't take part. However, four teams were able to enter and once again showed how knowledgeable they were.



The winners were Hay-on-Wye: Bill, Sam and Izzy took the winning Shield, a £300 cheque for the school and a book token each for £20.

2nd Place went to Llangors: Roly, Anna, Megan and Ruby winning £200 for the school and a £10 book token each.

In 3rd place was Llyswen: Oscar, Jack, Grace, and Alfie winning £100 for the school and £10 book vouchers each.

Clyro were the runners up with the team all receiving a £10 book token each.

Well done to all of you as those questions weren't that easy!! Our thanks go to Gwernyfed High School for hosting the event and to the team teachers for bringing the teams along.

Black Mountains Lions have been running this Schools quiz now for 10 years. We started with 11 schools but are now reduced to 6 due to rural school closures and the building of larger new schools. Our thanks go to Lion Pat Holmes who started this together with her late husband, Lion Victor Holmes.

Cheryl Hyde, *Black Mountains.*

Race night ...

All Lions reading this newsletter are invited to come along to the Tetbury Lions Spring Race Meeting that will take place on St Patrick's night, Saturday 17 March, in the Dolphins Hall. Last year's inaugural event was enjoyed by all who attended and raised just over £1200, which was beyond expectations. This is not the traditional film evening but real 'jockeys' riding hobby horses on an obstacle course. The tote will open at 7.30 pm to take your bets and the first race will be auctioned from 7.15 pm by our on-course auctioneer. This year the auctioneer is

Philip Taubenheim of Wotton Auction Rooms, a regular antiques expert on BBC's 'The Antiques Roadshow'.

If you or your team would like to sponsor a race please let us know, £50 per race for the first five races while the sixth race is £150. The seventh and final race is a selling race. The full sponsorship money will go to the winning owner/s for the first 6 races and a percentage of the sponsorship raised for the last race goes to the winning owner/s with the rest going to the funds. *(If that sounds complicated, I am sure it will all be explained on the night. Ed.)*

Your £5 course entry ticket includes free bar snacks, your personal race card, racing colours for the riders and free entry into the runners up raffle. The licensed Jockey Club bar will be open 'till late. Tickets are Available from Tetbury Hardware, London Road Tetbury, Saxon on 01666 504715 or any Tetbury Lion. So come along and enjoy the spectacle and perhaps be inspired to promote such an entertaining and profitable evening to your club.

Ken White, Tetbury.

Clevedon Classic Vehicles ...

Clevedon Lions Annual Classic vehicle event is taking place on Sunday 22 April, starting at Wyevale Garden Centre, Congresbury at 10.00. The cars/vans/bikes, which have to be over 25 years old (pre 1993), then drive to the seafront at Clevedon to be on display in the afternoon. 150 vehicles took part last year and bookings are coming in strongly this year - all entries must be pre booked for space reasons.



Funds raised are earmarked for the Children's Hospice and Lions charities.

Alex Lovell, a presenter on BBC Points West always comes along to wave the cars away on the scenic drive and our picture shows her with

Eric, Clevedon Lions mascot last year.

Please contact clevedonlions@gmail.com if you would like to participate - or just come along to see some superbly maintained and restored cars.

Peter Marlow, Clevedon Lions.

Activities snippets ...

Activity snippets sourced from the Activity Reports completed last month on MyLCI up to 26 February.

Ammanford Club collected for Marie Curie.

Chepstow and Caldicot Club propose financial aid for equipment at Holistic Care Centre.

Hereford Club collect yet more used spectacles.

Keynsham and District Club pledge financial support for six scouts attending world Jamboree.

Northleach and Fosse Club donate to UNICEF 'School in a Box' appeal.

Radstock and Midsomer Norton Club support 'Hope for Tomorrow' mobile chemotherapy charity.

Swansea Club held a concert in aid of the British Heart Foundation.

Swindon Club help 'Severn Freewheelers' with new motorcycle for blood deliveries.

John Seymour, Communications Team Leader.

Melksham Lions MJF Awards ...

Melksham Lions have now been serving our community for just on 45 years – 44 of those as a Chartered Club.

Pictured below with me are three of our members to whom I had the privilege to present such an award.

Due to some rather unforeseen circumstances it was not possible to make all three presentations at the same time, however:

It was my pleasure to present two of the three awards at our Christmas dinner held on 5 December 2017; these being to:



Simon White - a Charter member of Melksham Lions Club who has served the Club for over 44 years, during which time he has been President 8 times and is currently Chair of our activities committee.

Jim Whyborn - a Lion of over 14 years with the last 7 being with Melksham Lions Club. During his time with Melksham Lions he was President for 2 years and is currently Chair of our welfare committee.

It therefore gave me much pleasure at our meeting last night to present the third and final Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) Award to **Cliff Terrell** - a member of Melksham Lions Club for over 37 years. During this time he was President for a year - but most significantly Treasurer for 27 years!

Keith Mead, President, Melksham.

Northleach & Fosse ...

At our February meeting we voted to fund a 'School-in-a-Box' as one of three charity contributions this month.

The £155 School-in-a-Box has become part of the UNICEF standard response in emergencies. The kit contains supplies and materials for a teacher and up to 40 students. The purpose of the kit is to ensure the continuation of children's education by the first 72 hours of an emergency.

We also voted a £150 donation to the Great Western Air Ambulance charity.

A third donation of £200 will be made to the Helen & Douglas House charity. Based in Oxford but supporting families from surrounding counties, the charity cares for terminally ill children and young adults in two special hospices and through an outreach service. At Helen House, the world's first children's hospice, babies and children up to the age of 18 are cared for. At Douglas House they look after young adults aged 16 to 35.

Mark Ogden, PRO, Northleach & Fosse.

Swansea Roots Foundation ...

In September last year Gower Lions were part of the team that involved in the BBC TV DIY SOS Big Build for Children in Need, a project for the Roots Foundation in Swansea.

Part of the project was to provide 4 accommodation units within the complex for youth that leave the children in care scheme. The participant's will stay at the Roots Foundation for a maximum of 3 months and in that time will be taught basic living skills – cooking, budgeting and personal care.

Gower Lions have put together a welcome pack of basic food items which will be available for each person when they enter the program.



Photo: Lion President Liz Harries presenting the first pack to Emma Lewis founder of Roots. Liz says 'The aim is to give the occupant a start on the road to the outside world and provide an example of what can be bought for under £20.' A letter accompanying the pack, wishes

them well.

David Willoughby, Sec. Gower & Llŵchwr Est.

Recycling Scooters ...

Hereford Lions Club's latest community project, recycling mobility scooters and wheelchairs, is proving to be a big success. One satisfied 'customer' Brenda Bayliss summed



up the free service: "It's a wonderful scheme, a real godsend for those like me who have difficulty walking and perhaps can't afford a new one. The scooter Lions gave me has given me more freedom."

Families donate unwanted disability aids to Lions who refurbish them and pass them on to someone in need of one. Several are currently available. Lion Terry Williams said: "The response has been very encouraging. It makes good sense to find a new home for an unwanted aid for the handicapped."

Photo: Terry delivers a sturdy scooter to Brenda Bayliss.

Hereford's candidate in the District Young Ambassador competition, Georgia Ellis 18, who achieved the runner-up spot, attended a club meeting to describe the experience. Georgia is a mentor at the Young Carers group and a Brownies Leader. She plans a gap year in America as an Au Pair and the club awarded her £250 towards this. The club sadly reports the death in February of one of its veteran members, Stan Austin, aged 85.

George Thomas, Hereford.

Lechlade & District ...

At the Great Western Hospital in Swindon, we were thrilled to be able to present £500 cheques to the 'The Brighter Futures Radiotherapy Appeal' and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. The donation was a result of raffles at the



Senior Citizens Christmas Parties held in Lechlade and Fairford, a total of £373 was raised with the club making up the total amount to £1000. The presentation was made on behalf of the Lions by President

Simon Winckles and Welfare Chairman Keith Musson to Brighter Futures Head of fundraising, Catherine Newman and events manager Chloe Thomas.



Our Club minibus has been sponsored for several years by Moore, Allen and Innocent, Estate Agents, Lechlade who have paid for the road fund tax. *President Simon Winckles receiving the cheque from Jenny Bowyer and Sarah*

Whittingham, representing Moore Allen and Innocent."

David Sharp, PRO, Lechlade and District.

Diary Dates March

- 2-4 **District 43rd Convention**, Aberavon Beach Hotel. www.lions105w.org.uk/Convention2018.htm
- 13 Lions UN Day, Palace of Westminster.
- 14 DG visit to Monmouth Club.
- 17 Black Mountains 45th Charter Anniversary Dinner. Hereford Race Night.
- 18 Llandrindod Wells Charter Lunch.
- 24 Porthcawl Charter Anniversary Dinner.
- 24-25 Devizes Sports Coaching Weekend.
- 25 Swindon Charter Anniversary Lunch.

April

- 7 Gower & Llŵchwr 48th Charter Dinner.
- 8 Marlborough Spring Boundary Walk.
- 13 Chipping Sodbury 47th Charter Dinner.
- 14 Frome Charter Lunch. Lechlade & District Charter Dinner.
- 15 Radstock & MSN 41st Charter Lunch.
- 21 Dursley 37th Charter Dinner. Hereford Charter Dinner.
- 22 Incoming Officers Day, Swansea. Clevedon Lions Classic Vehicle event.
- 29 Incoming Officers Day, Bristol.

May

- 4-6 **MD Convention**, Basingstoke. www.md105convention.uk

April News Update ...

For April 2018 News Update, please submit articles to news@lions105w.org.uk by 25 March. Editor Derek